



NOAA CORPS BULLETIN

Official Information for NOAA Commissioned Officers

Volume 33, Number 3

Third Quarter, 2003

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Nearly 200 years ago, when the United States Survey of the Coast was first formed, no one could have imagined that one day shorelines would be charted from the sky to ensure the greatest accuracy. In today's world, however, shoreline mapping is just one of the many missions flown by NOAA Corps pilots at the Aircraft Operations Center.

This year marks the centennial anniversary of the Wright brothers' first flight. From that historic beginning, aircraft have evolved to perform tasks as straightforward as passenger transport and as complex as NOAA's meteorological data collection. Aircraft now comprise an essential component of NOAA as the agency fulfills its mission to gather environmental data. By conducting snow surveys, marine mammal surveys, hurricane and atmospheric research, remote sensing, and other airborne science missions, NOAA Corps officers and the Aircraft Operations Center provide vital support to NOAA.

The Aircraft Operations Center was born the Research Flight Facility (RFF) in 1961 as part of the U.S. Weather Bureau's National Hurricane Research Project. The Project funded the acquisition of two Douglas DC-6 aircraft, a B-57A and a DC-4 to support its multifaceted atmospheric research programs, which included the early attempts to modify hurricanes. Until the mid-1970s, RFF's aircraft, operating from Miami International Airport, engaged in many atmospheric research projects that spanned the globe. In 1975 the facility was combined with a unit from the Environmental Research Laboratories to form the Research Facilities Center (RFC). To replace its aging aircraft, the RFC acquired two new WP-3D Orions B in the mid-1970s. These aircraft are still in use today. In 1983 the Office of Aircraft Operations (OAO) was created to consolidate all of the aviation assets operated by NOAA.

In January 1993 the OAO was designated the Aircraft Operations Center (AOC) and moved to MacDill AFB in Tampa, Florida. AOC directly supports NOAA's mission by providing scientists with unique platforms to precisely observe, measure and chart the dynamics of oceans and our atmosphere.

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FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK (continued)

NMAO has just completed 10-year fleet modernization plans for its ships and aircraft. The aircraft plan provides a strategy to upgrade aging instrumentation as well as acquire additional and replacement aircraft, to ensure NMAO continues to serve NOAA with the advanced technology and efficient airborne platforms needed to best accomplish the agency's mission objectives.

ANNUAL REVIEW OF CAPTAINS

In accordance with NOAA Corps Regulation 01302F and 33 USC 3022, the annual review of officers in the grade of captain will be held on Wednesday, 6 August 2003. Those officers serving as permanent captains or serving as captains in a de facto capacity (i.e., officers serving in the grade of captain who have not been confirmed by the Senate for permanent promotion to that grade) and who have not been approved for transfer to the retired list, will be reviewed. Officers serving as temporary captains and those in the grade of commander and below were reviewed by the Officer Personnel Board during the April 2003 annual review. Rear Admiral Nicholas A. Prahl, Director, Marine Operations Center, will chair this special Officer Personnel Board. Board members will include senior retired officers recalled to active duty to participate in this review, and senior civilian representatives from programs supported by NOAA Corps. Officers who will be reviewed should provide any information not currently in their Official Personnel Files to the Commissioned Personnel Center not later than 28 July 2003.

STEVE EISENBERG DEPARTS CPC

After 19 years of dedicated service to the NOAA Corps and the Commissioned Personnel Center, Steve Eisenberg departed NOAA on April 4, 2004, and assumed his new duties with the U.S. Public Health Service, Division of Commissioned Personnel, as Chief of the Compensation Branch. Steve began his career with CPC as a Military Personnel Specialist in 1984 and became the first Chief of the Officer Services Division in 1989, a position he held until this past April.

UNIFORMED SERVICES IDENTIFICATION CARD

As of 31 May 2003 the Department of Defense (DoD) no longer issues the green "teslin" uniformed services identification card to active duty personnel. DoD has established 30 September 2003 as the date by which those who currently hold green teslin identification cards must be reissued Common Access Cards (CAC). Officers who still possess the teslin cards should plan to visit their nearest Real Time Automated Personnel Identification System (RAPIDS) card facility (<http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/>) and have a CAC issued at the earliest opportunity. Commissioned Personnel Center in Silver Spring and Marine Operations Center-Pacific in Seattle can issue CACs. Dependents will continue to be issued the orange teslin identification card. Questions concerning CAC should be directed to Neavaly Edoja at neavaly.edoja@noaa.gov 301-713-3444, Extension 128.

OFFICIAL PERSONNEL FILES

The Official Personnel File (OPF) is the permanent, historical and official record of each officer's active duty service. It contains the documentation from which important career development decisions are made for selection, advancement, assignments and retention. Officers should periodically review and update these records throughout their careers. Although the Commissioned Personnel Center digitally scans and files each and every OPF-related document it receives, the system is not perfect. Documents mailed or transmitted by officers occasionally do not find their way to CPC. Never assume that items have been filed in your OPF. It is each officer's responsibility to

OFFICIAL PERSONNEL FILES (continued)

periodically check her/his OPF to ensure critical paperwork has been received and filed. If you determine that items are missing, provide copies to CPC as soon as possible. Officers with prior enlisted or commissioned service or with prior professional work experience in the private or public sectors are encouraged to provide documentation related to these periods. It is the responsibility of all officers to make available any optional material that they wish Officer Personnel Boards to review.

Each OPF is organized into six parts:

Part I - Appointment, Promotion and Assignment Documentation

Part II - Education and Training Documentation

Part III - Award Documentation

Part IV- Home of Record, Life Insurance, Emergency Data, and related Documentation

Part V - Permanent Change of Station Documentation

Part VI -Public Affairs and Biographical Documentation

CPC's immediate goal is to have sufficient security safeguards in place by the end of the year to provide officers with internet-based access to their OPFs.

OFFICER MEDICAL RECORDS

All NOAA Corps officers are reminded of the requirement to notify the Director, NMAO Office of Health Services, and furnish a copy of their medical records to CPC, for any routine or emergency medical treatment received. This requirement holds whether or not an officer is currently assigned to a ship or whether treatment was received from a civilian provider or a Uniformed Services Medical Treatment Facility (USMTF). Medical records must be furnished to CPC in a timely manner following treatment received.

This policy is in accordance with the USCG Medical Manual. The USCG Medical Manual may be found online at the following web address: www.uscg.mil/hq/g-w/g-wk/g-wkh/g-wkh-1/Pubs/MedicalManual/index.htm

Please direct any medical policy questions you may have to CAPT Vitch at 301-713-3440 x186.

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

All officers are reminded of the requirement to maintain updated biographies in their OPFs. The Commissioned Personnel Center is often asked to provide current biographical information to senior NOAA leadership, NOAA Public Affairs, and other Government officials. It is in your best interest to ensure that your biographies include accurate information on assignments, awards and recognitions, education, and notable accomplishments. Failure to do so will result in the release of outdated or inaccurate information. Original biographies and updates may be mailed or e-mailed to either Katherine Raymond or Neavaly Edoja.

NOAA CORPS INTERNATIONAL SERVICE RIBBON

NOAA Corps Regulations 12701 - Attachment 4 G(1)(b), does not exclude awarding the NOAA Corps International Service Ribbon to aviators. Aviators serving aboard U.S. or foreign aircraft on operational duty, and based in areas other than the United States, its territories or possessions, are eligible for the ribbon after meeting the minimum time

NOAA CORPS INTERNATIONAL SERVICE RIBBON (continued)

requirement of 21 consecutive days under competent orders. A clarification of this regulation has been proposed and a revised authorization worksheet is being developed. In the interim, a memorandum to the Director, CPC, demonstrating how the eligibility requirements were met, is sufficient.

COMBAT-RELATED SPECIAL COMPENSATION

Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC) was authorized by the FY 2003 National Defense Authorization Act to compensate certain retirees with combat-related disabilities. Eligible retirees must have 20 or more years of active duty service in the Uniformed Services. Qualified disabilities are combat-related disabilities associated with the award of a Purple Heart decoration, regardless of the VA disability rating (10-100%), or any disability (or combination of disabilities) that results in a VA rating of 60-100% that was incurred while engaged in exceptionally hazardous, combat-related service including flight, diving, or other extraordinary operational settings. For additional criteria or an application, please contact Katherine Raymond at (301) 713-3453 extension 125 or katherine.raymond@noaa.gov.

FAMILY SEPARATION ALLOWANCE (FSA) INCREASE

The monthly FSA entitlement was increased from \$100 per month to \$250 per month, effective 1 October 2002. The new rate was approved under the Emergency Wartime Supplemental Appropriations Act, signed into law by the President on 16 April 2003. The provisions of the Act are in effect until 30 September 2003. Though the new rate was approved for only a one-year period, it is possible that it will become the permanent rate in Fiscal Year 2004.

RATE REDUCTION FOR SERVICE MEMBERS' GROUP LIFE INSURANCE

The Department of Veterans Affairs has announced that the rates for both the Basic SGLI and Family SGLI Programs will be reduced effective July 1, 2003.

The new premium rate for Basic SGLI will be 6.5 cents per \$1,000 of coverage per month. This is a reduction from the current rate of 8 cents per \$1,000 of coverage per month. The monthly premium for service members with the maximum \$250,000 of coverage will be reduced from \$20 to \$16.25 per month.

Rates for the Family SGLI Program will be reduced as indicated below. Also note that there will be seven categories vice the five categories that currently exist.

Monthly premiums for \$100,000 of coverage for family members:

<u>Age</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>On July 1, 2003</u>
Under 35	\$9.00	\$6.00
35 - 39	\$13.00	\$7.50
40 - 44	\$13.00	\$10.00
45 - 49	\$20.00	\$19.00
50 - 54	\$32.00	\$28.00
55 - 59	\$55.00	\$42.00
60 +	\$55.00	\$54.00

RETIRED OFFICERS' BIOGRAPHIES

Captain David B. MacFarland, NOAA (Ret.)

Captain David B. MacFarland, Jr., retired on June 1, 2003, with 32 years, 11 months and 18 days of active service.

Captain MacFarland graduated from Michigan Technological University in June 1970 with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Geology and later attended full-time university training at the University of Maryland where he earned a Master's of Science degree in Technology Management.

Captain MacFarland was appointed to the NOAA Corps on July 13, 1970, and attended the 34th Basic Officer Training Class. His sea tours included assignments as Junior Officer, NOAA Ships OCEANOGRAPHER and FAIRWEATHER; Operations and Executive Officer, NOAA Ship DAVIDSON; and Commanding Officer, NOAA Ship MT MITCHELL.

His shore assignments included NOS, Office of Marine Technology, Marine Data Systems Program; Hydrographic Training Officer, PMC; Chief, AMC Hydrographic Surveys Branch; Liaison, Defense Mapping Agency; and Chief, Marine Charting Division. Prior to his retirement, Captain MacFarland served as Director, Office of Coast Survey.

Captain Nicholas E. Perugini, NOAA (Ret.)

Captain Nicholas E. Perugini retired on June 1, 2003, with 26 years, 1 month and 26 days of active service.

Captain Perugini graduated from Pennsylvania State University in May 1976 with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Meteorology and later attended the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School where he earned a Master's of Science degree in Hydrographic Sciences.

Captain Perugini was appointed to the NOAA Corps on April 5, 1977, and attended the 58th Basic Officer Training Class. His sea tours included assignments as Junior Officer, NOAA Ship WHITING; Operations Officer, NOAA Ship RAINIER; and Commanding Officer, NOAA Ship RUDE.

His shore assignments included Officer-In-Charge, Hydrographic Field Parties 4 and 5; HDAPS Technical Assistant, Hydrographic Surveys Branch; Chief, Atlantic Hydrographic Section, AMC; and Chief, Atlantic Hydrographic Branch, AMC. Prior to his retirement, Captain Perugini served as Chief, Marine Chart Division.

INTERNET ACCESS TO NOAA CORPS BULLETIN

Beginning August 1, 2003, the NOAA Corps Bulletin will be available on the NOAA Corps homepage (<http://www.noaacorps.noaa.gov/>). Previous editions of the Bulletin will eventually be accessible via the Internet. In the short term, printed copies will continue to be mailed to subscribers.

BILLET LIST

Attached to this Bulletin is a current NOAA Corps Billet List. The list has been updated from PCS orders received by CPC through June 30, 2003.

I. APPROVED ASSIGNMENT CHANGES

Captain

Parsons, Roger L., from NMAO Commissioned Personnel Center to NOS, Office of Coast Survey, Silver Spring, Maryland, as Director (Billet #7200, September 2003).

Commander

Kozak, Stephen A., from NOAA Under Secretary Office to NMAO, CPC, Industrial College of the Armed Forces (Billet #0580, August 2003).

Lieutenant Commander

Cole, David A., from NESDIS, National Geophysical Data Center to NOS, OCS, NOAA/UNH Joint Hydrographic Center, Durham, New Hampshire, as Database Coordinator (Billet #7244, September 2003).

Moore, Christopher S., from NMAO, NOAA Ship DAVID STARR JORDAN to NMAO, Program Services and Outsourcing Division, Washington, DC, as Liaison to Oceanographer of the Navy (Billet #0320).

Lake, Brian J., from OAR, Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory to NMAO, Marine Operations Center, NOAA Ship DAVID STARR JORDAN, La Jolla, California as Commanding Officer (Billet #0985, February 2004).

Brown, Jeffrey K., from NOS, OCS, Hydrographic Systems Technology Programs to NOS, OCS, Hydrographic Systems and Technology Programs, Silver Spring, Maryland, as Chief (Billet #7231, June 2003).

Brown, Jeffrey K., from NOS, OCS, Hydrographic systems Technology Programs to NMAO, Marine Operations Center, NOAA Ship OREGON II, Pascagoula, Mississippi, as Commanding Officer (Billet #0740, June 2004).

Beckwith, Stephen F., from NMAO, NOAA Ship ALBATROSS IV to NMAO, NOAA Ship DELAWARE II, Woods Hole, Massachusetts, as Commanding Officer (Billet #0758, September 2003).

Beckwith, Stephen F., from NMAO, NOAA Ship DELAWARE II to NOS, National Marine Sanctuaries Division, Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, Key Largo, Florida, as Manager (Billet #7620, June 2004).

Lieutenant

Glover, Gregory G., from NMAO, Aircraft Operations Center to NESDIS, National Geophysical Data Center, Boulder, Colorado, as Manager Bathymetric Data Acquisition Program (Billet #6120, December 2003).

Daniels, Cecile R., from NMAO, Commissioned Personnel Center to NOS, OCS, Marine Chart Division, Silver Spring, Maryland, as Geospatial Database Specialist (Billet #7225, November 2003).

Jones, Russell C., from NMAO, NOAA Ship OSCAR ELTON SETTE to NOS, National Marine Sanctuaries Division, Northwest Hawaiian Island Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve, Honolulu, Hawaii, as Marine Operations Coordinator (Billet #7670, January 2004).

Bailey, Demian A., from NMAO, NOAA Ship MacARTHUR II to NOS, Hazardous Materials Response Division, Seattle, Washington, as Assistant Scientific Support Coordinator (Billet #7546, September 2003).

I. APPROVED ASSIGNMENT CHANGES (continued)

Lieutenant (continued)

Miller, George M., from NMFS, Southeast Fisheries Science Center to NMAO, NOAA Ship MILLER FREEMAN, Seattle, Washington, as Operations Officer (Billet #0962, June 2004).

Jones, Elizabeth I., from NMAO, NOAA Corps Director’s Staff to NMAO, NOAA Ship RONALD H. BROWN, Charleston, South Carolina, as 4th Officer (Billet #0703, January 2004).

Stark, Arthur J., from NMFS, Northwest Region to NMAO, NOAA Ship OSCAR DYSON, Kodiak, Alaska, as Operations Officer (Billet #0912, June 2004).

Lieutenant (junior grade)

Moser, Marc S., from NOS, Office of Coast Survey to NMAO, NOAA Ship THOMAS JEFFERSON, Norfolk, Virginia, as Operations Officer (Billet #0732, November 2003).

Slover, Kevin J., from NWS, National Hurricane Center to NMAO, NOAA Ship RAINIER, Seattle, Washington as Operations Officer (Billet #0932 , February 2004).

Kroening, Stephen Z., from NMAO, Aircraft Operations Center to NMAO, Aircraft Operations Center, Chanhassen, Minnesota, for assignment to Snow Survey Flight Program (Billet #1082, July 2003).

Pralgo, Jennifer E., from NMAO, NOAA Ship RONALD H. BROWN to NWS, National Hurricane Center, Miami, Florida, as Oceanographer (Billet #4600, January 2004).

Ensign

Edmundson, Richard A., from NMAO, NOAA Ship RAINIER to NMAO, NOAA Ship RUDE, Norfolk, Virginia, as Junior Officer (Billet #0778, May 2003).

II. PROMOTIONS

None.

III. APPOINTMENTS

None.

IV. APPROVED RETIREMENTS

Michael R. Lemon	LCDR	11/01/03
Scott S. Stolz	LCDR	01/01/05
William E. Sites	CDR	07/01/05

V. APPROVED RESIGNATIONS/SEPARATIONS

Angelika G. Messer LTJG 09/01/03

VI. RETIREMENTS

David B. MacFarland CAPT 06/01/03
Nicholas E. Perugini CAPT 06/01/03

VII. RESIGNATIONS/SEPARATIONS

Carolyn M. Sramek LT 04/15/03
Shawna K. Bell LTJG 04/30/03
Jennifer L. Johnson ENS 06/01/03

VIII. OTHER CHANGES TO THE LINEAL LIST

John M. Steger LCDR 06/25/03
(New Lineal No. 110.03 and Date of Rank 030202)

IX. ON BOARD STRENGTH AS OF 1 JULY 2003 - 245